GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:591
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
QUALITY OF MEDICINES
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian medicines are not able to compete with foreign drugs due to poor quality;

(b) whether as a result of this, India`s export of medicines has been affected adversely;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure better quality of medicines from the Indian companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) No, Sir. Indian Pharmaceutical industry is able to meet 70% of the country`s requirement of bulk drugs and almost the entire demand for formulations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) data, year-wise increase registered in the export of Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals and Fine Chemicals during the last three years are as under:

Years	Rs. in crores
1998-99	Rs.6256.07
1999-2000	Rs.7230.16
2000-2001	Rs. 8729.89

(Provisional)

(d) Quality of drugs is intrinsically linked to the total quality management policies which depends upon the adoption of good manufacturing practices. The Government of India vide Notification No. GSR 894 (E) dated 11th December 2001 has amended Schedule M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules to upgrade the requirements of Good Manufacturing Practices to be followed by every drug manufacturer in the country.